

# Northgate Public Art Plan

City of Seattle  
Dept. of Planning and Development  
Northgate Stakeholders  
Northgate Public Art Plan, October 18, 2005



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Haller Lake Community Club – same location since 1921.

09



Thornton Creek remains a source of community activism, and a valued natural asset in a dense, urban environment.

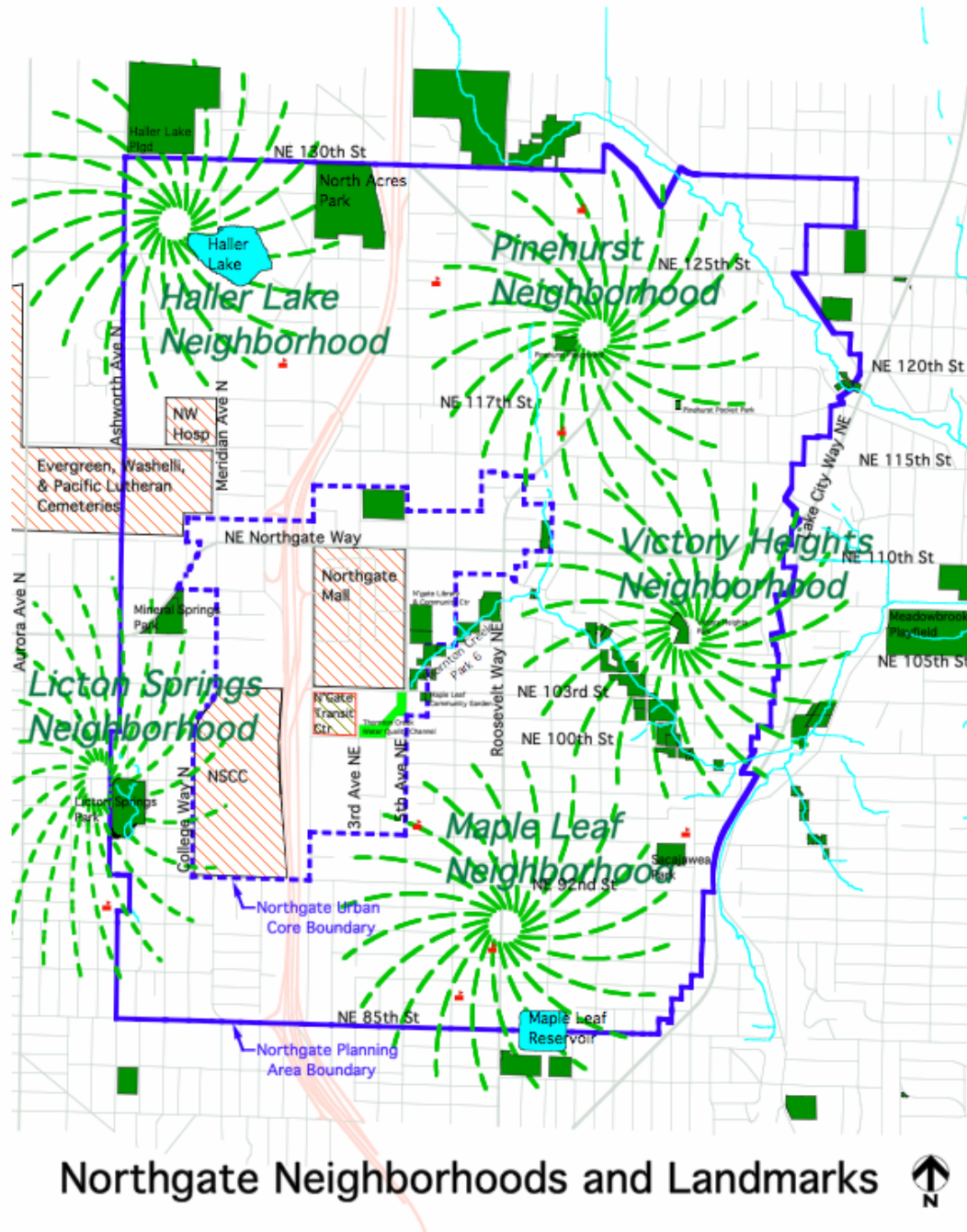
## Community Activism

Community activism is another important historic and ongoing characteristic of Northgate. Northgate residents have challenged many proposed changes planned by governmental and private developers. The Haller Lake Improvement Club led action in 1965 to prevent siting of a garbage transfer station at North 128th and Stone Way Avenue North. During the late 1970s Northgate residents also prevented Metro from establishing a bus barn at any of the five proposed sites on Aurora Avenue North. That garbage transfer station was eventually built in Wallingford and the bus barn was established at a more appropriate site in Shoreline near I-5. Local history sources offer many other examples of Northgate activism related to land use.

Creek preservation is a form of activism common in the Northwest. Preservation of Thornton Creek and its watershed are central to the emerging character of Northgate. Thornton Creek activism has taken many approaches over several decades (community discussion, lawsuits, environmental education, habitat restoration, civic politics), and has helped instill an attitude of environmental stewardship in the neighborhood and in City processes. Many Northgate assets and projects result from or are influenced by the work of Thornton Creek activists. Examples include establishment of public open space along several sections of Thornton Creek, ongoing habitat restoration at Park 6 and elsewhere in the watershed, and environmental education programs. North Seattle Community College and the Seattle Police North Precinct Station host constructed wetlands designed to improve flows in Thornton Creek. The Thornton Creek Water Quality Channel, in planning in 2005, is a park-like SPU project south of Northgate Mall. This facility attenuates and cleans storm flow in a new channel constructed between a 400-unit mixed use development (Northgate Commons) and a 150-unit senior housing development (ERA). Thornton Creek activism is strong in 2005 as it contributes to understanding of the creek and wetlands as highly desirable resources and urban assets.

Another form of Northgate community activism is work by community groups to enhance and create facilities and events. Maple Leaf residents hold an annual Summer Social. In 2005 they are designing the Maple Leaf Community Gardens. Pinehurst residents renovated the Pinehurst Playground. In 2005 they are designing the new Pinehurst Pocket Park. The Haller Lake Community Club, established in 1921, continues as a venue for meetings, candidate forums, and other community functions. The clubhouse serves as studio and headquarters for Kaleidoscope Dance Company and Creative Dance Center. The Northgate Arts Council formed in 2004. Members are surveying Northgate art resources, planning the first annual Northgate August Festival and working to enhance the cultural identity of Northgate.

The Northgate activist tradition continues, as many community groups protect and improve their community interests, add amenities to their neighborhoods, promote sustainability, deliver excellent urban design, and foster community values.





# Art Plan Vision

## **Vision:**

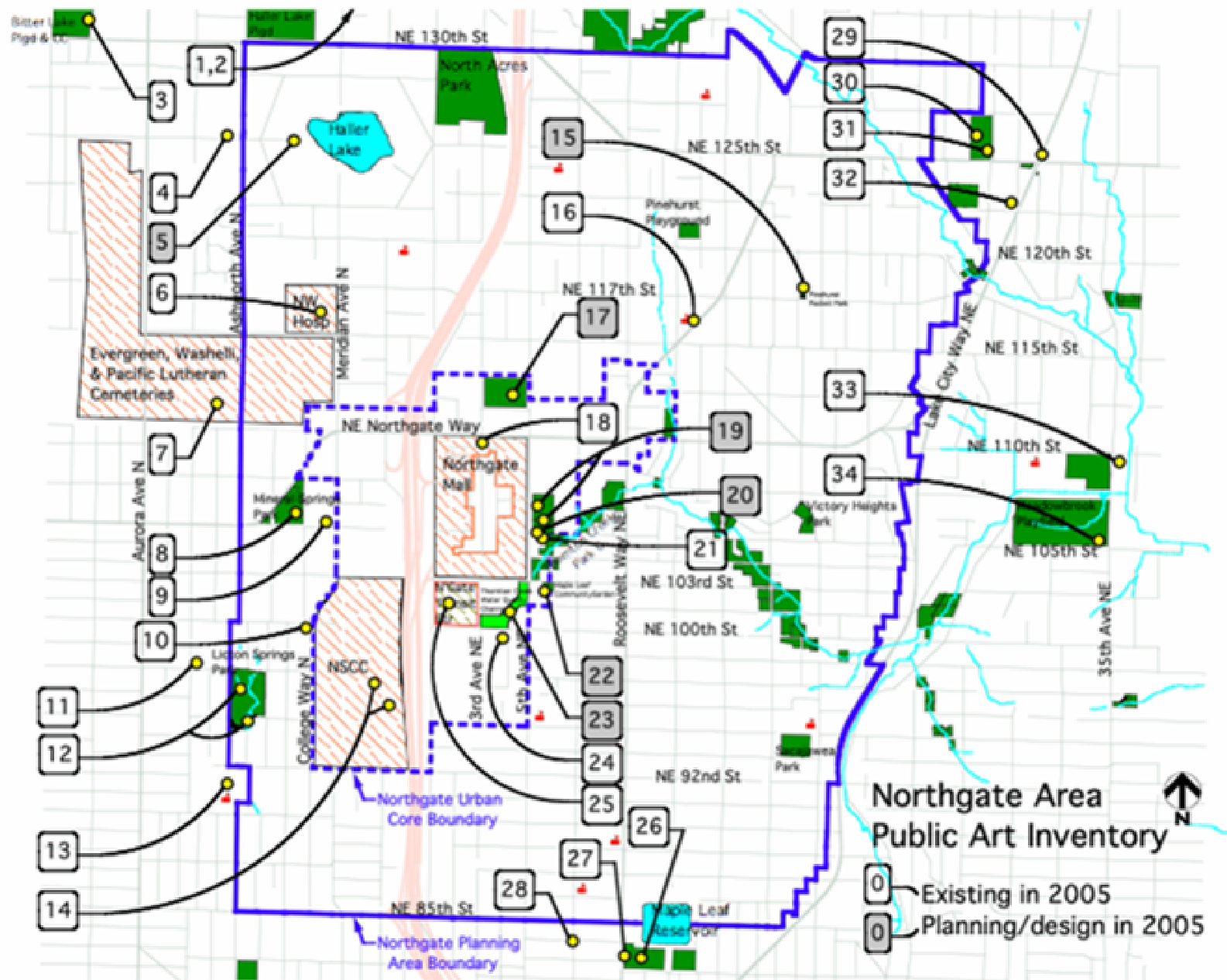
New public art in Northgate should celebrate the area's emerging urban identity. Celebrate here means enhance, support, critique or otherwise reference the new identity or the predecessors to this new identity (pre-habitation, pre-European contact, pioneer, logging/agricultural, suburban).

New public art in Northgate should be or show something remarkable, unexpected and poetic. "Remarkable" means that the art or the effect of the art is carried in the audience's memory. "Unexpected" means that the art will subvert or stand out from its local context to provide unusual experience. "Poetic" means the ability of art, including visual and other forms, to weave and reweave life's information, rhythms and textures into audience experiences loaded with emotion and meaning.

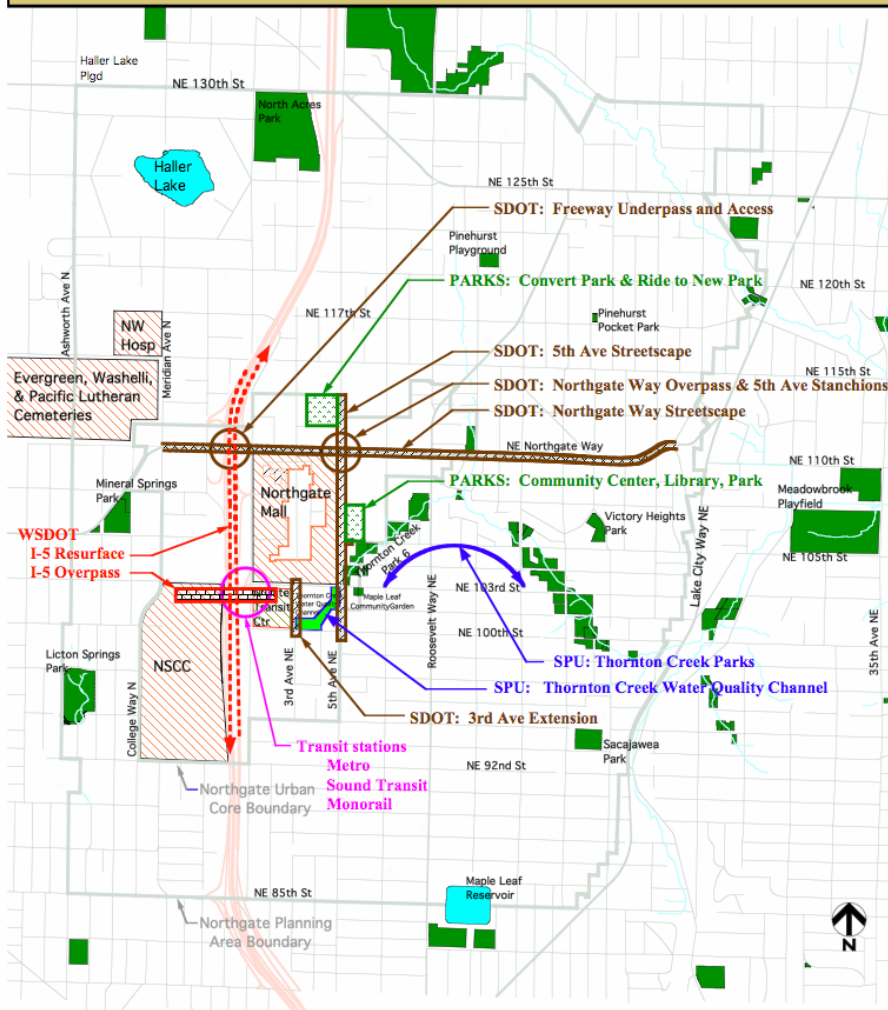
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# Northgate Public Art Opportunities, 2005



## Private Development Art Opportunities

**Area Wide**

- Water Feature
- Column & Wall Cladding
- Artist Housing & Workspace
- Landscape design
- Paving
- Signage
- Blank Wall Treatment
- Glazing
- Sculpture
- Site furniture
- Artist Made Building Parts

## Community Project Art Opportunities

**Area Wide**

- Community Gardens
- Pocket Parks
- Playground Renovation
- Murals
- Curb Ramp and Walkway Embedments
- Bus Shelter Customization
- Streetscape Amenities
- Traffic Circles
- Festivals, shows, events
- Curb appeal tours

# Urban Design Solutions

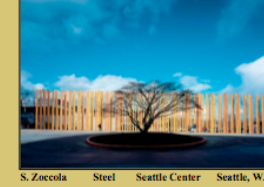
Northgate Public Art Plan

## FENCE / GATE/RAIL



C. Pauley Steel History House Seattle, WA

## SCREEN / BARRIER



S. Zoccola Steel Seattle Center Seattle, WA

## POST CAP / BOLLARD



P. Maher Forged Steel Meridian Park Seattle, WA

## WATER FEATURE



B. Shaw Bronze, Concrete City Ctr. Edmonds, WA

## COLUMN CLADDING



J. Hammer Glass Mosaic SeaTac Airport, WA

## PLAZA SCULPTURE



R. Rupek Stainless Steel Civic Ctr. Aurora, CO

## PAVEMENT



Wiegman, Shaw Glass, Concrete Seattle, WA

## PAVEMENT



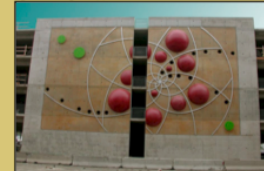
B. Shaw Stainless Steel, Concrete Cheney, WA

## PAVEMENT



B. Shaw Colored Concrete Transit Ctr. Olympia WA

## GARAGE WALL



S. Zoccola Fiberglass, Steel, Lights Seattle, WA

## STREETSCAPE WALL



M. Steven Stucco Fremont Epicenter Seattle, WA

## BLANK WALL



S. Gundy Vinyl Print Mural Seattle, WA

## SEATING



C. Law Concrete Fremont Seattle, WA

## SEATING



B. Shaw Concrete, Glass Alki Seattle, WA

## SEATING



B. Shaw Concrete City Ctr. Edmonds, WA

## GLAZING & TRANSPARENCY



B. Shaw Laminated Stained Glass Olympia, WA

## LIGHTING



E. Conner Fiber Optic, Concrete San Jose, CA

## LIGHTING



E. Conner Fiber Optic, Suspension San Jose, CA